Basics of Multiscale Modelling: Tutorial on Porous Media Flow Introductory Course on Multiphysics Modelling

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#### Motivation:

- Many complex phenomena involve processes occurring at different scales (of space and/or time), or ...
- multiple spatial and/or temporal scales can be distinguished to differ between the process phases or to better/easier describe the process features.
- Usually, it is easier to deal with different scales individually.

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#### Multi-scale modelling

Mathematical solution techniques of dealing with problems that have important features at multiple scales of space and/or time.

*Comment*: For many problems, the processes (i.e., sub-problems) at various scales can be, in practice, solved (quasi) separately, which makes such multi-scale approach very efficient.

#### Multi-scale modelling

Mathematical solution techniques of dealing with problems that have important features at multiple scales of space and/or time.

#### Requirements:

Separation of scales – allows to apply different approaches to treat problems at various scales. One can distinguish:
 different spatial scales – when there are local and global phenomena, or there co-exist processes which are: essentially microscopic (i.e., occur at the micro-scale), mesoscopic (i.e., occur at the meso-scale), and macroscopic (i.e., occur at the macro-scale), etc.;
 different temporal scales – when the involved processes are: relatively slow (static or guasi-static), dynamic, or relatively fast. etc.

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 Representativeness of the geometry or time-interval for the phenomenon considered on the scale related to this geometry or time-interval.

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different temporal scales – when the involved processes are: relatively slow (static or quasi-static), dynamic, or relatively fast, etc.

- Representativeness of the geometry or time-interval for the phenomenon considered on the scale related to this geometry or time-interval.
- Well defined way of passing of the relevant information (effective properties, behaviour, etc.) between the scales.

**EXAMPLE: Flow in porous media** 

#### MACRO-SCALE

viscous flow through a porous material



#### **EXAMPLE: Flow in porous media**





Selection (construction) of a (periodic) Representative Elementary Volume (REV) of a porous medium.

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(fluid domain)

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- Stokes flow, i.e., linear & steady, viscous, incompressible flow through the periodic RVE, driven by a uniform pressure gradient.

#### EXAMPLE: Flow in porous media





(Stokes flow)

- Selection (construction) of a (periodic) Representative Elementary Volume (REV) of a porous medium.
- Stokes flow, i.e., linear & steady, viscous, incompressible flow through the periodic RVE, driven by a uniform pressure gradient.
- Averaging of the computed velocity field to determine the permeability of the porous medium.
- 2 MACRO-SCALE:
  - Macroscopic flow through the porous material characterised by its open porosity and permeability using the Darcy's law.







TUTORIAL: Steady viscous flow through channels clogged with a porous material

#### **Porous material**





TUTORIAL: Steady viscous flow through channels clogged with a porous material



$$\mathbf{q} = -\frac{\mathbf{k}}{\mu}\nabla p$$

$$\mathbf{q} : \text{flux } [\text{m/s}] \quad \mathbf{q} = \phi \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle_{\text{f}}$$

$$\mathbf{v} : \text{velocity in the pores } [\text{m/s}]$$

$$\langle . \rangle_{\text{f}} : \text{averaging over the pore fluid}$$

$$\phi : \text{open porosity}$$

$$\nabla p : \text{pressure gradient } [\text{Pa/m}]$$

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$$\mathbf{k} : \text{permeability tensor } [\text{m}^2]$$

$$\mathbf{k} \sim \begin{bmatrix} k_{11} & k_{12} \\ k_{21} & k_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Darcy's law

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#### For the pressure gradient:

• in the (negative) x<sub>1</sub> direction

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